

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly replace the claims of record with the following full set of claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method, operable in a **speech processing computer** system, for analyzing of speech, the method causing the **speech processing computer** system to execute the steps of:

in the speech processing system

- inputting a speech signal,
- obtaining a first harmonic of the speech signal,
- determining a phase-difference ($\Delta\phi$) between the speech signal and the first harmonic for centering a windowing function, wherein said phase difference is determined between a maximum of said speech signal and a phase zero of the first harmonic of the speech signal.

2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, the determination of the phase difference comprising the steps of:

- determining a location of said maximum of the speech signal.

3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, whereby the speech signal is a diphone signal.

4. (Currently amended) A method for synthesizing speech, the method, operable in a **speech processing computer** system, comprising the steps of:

in the speech processing system,

- selecting of windowed diphone samples, the diphone samples being windowed by a window function being centered with respect to a phase angle which is determined as a phase difference between a maximum of said speech signal and a zero crossing of a first harmonic of the speech signal, and
 - concatenating the selected windowed diphone samples.
5. (original) The method of claim 4, the speech signal being a diphone signal.
6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 4, the window function being a raised cosine or a triangular window.
7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 4 further comprising inputting of information being indicative of diphones and a pitch contour, the information forming the basis for selecting of the windowed diphone samples.
8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 4, whereby the information is provided from a language processing module of a text-to-speech system.
9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 4 further comprising:
- inputting of speech,
 - windowing the speech by means of the window function to obtain the windowed diphone samples.

10. Cancelled.

11. (Previously presented) A speech analysis device comprising:

- means for inputting of a speech signal,
- means for obtaining a first harmonic of the speech signal,
- means for determining a phase difference ($\Delta\varphi$) between the speech signal and the first harmonic for centering a window function, wherein said phase difference is determined between a maximum of said speech signal and a phase zero (φ_0) of the speech signal.

12. (Previously presented) The speech analysis device of claim 11, the means for determining the phase difference being adapted to determine:

the maximum of the speech signal.

13. (Previously presented) The speech analysis device of claim 11, wherein the speech signal is a diphone signal.

14. (Previously presented) A speech synthesis device comprising:

- means for selecting of windowed diphone samples, the diphone samples being windowed by a window function being centered with respect to a phase angle which is determined as a phase difference between a speech signal and a first harmonic of

- the speech signal, wherein said phase difference is determined between a maximum of said speech signal and a phase zero of the first harmonic of the speech signal
- means for concatenating the selected windowed diphone signals.

15. (original) The speech synthesis device of claim 14, wherein the speech signal is a diphone signal.

16. (Previously presented) The speech synthesis device of claim 14 the window function being a raised cosine or a triangular window.

17. (Previously presented) The speech synthesis device of claim 14 further comprising means for inputting of information being indicative of diphones and a pitch contour, the means for selecting the windowed diphones being adapted to perform the selection based on the information.

18. (Previously presented) A text-to-speech system comprising:

- language processing means for providing of information being indicative of diphones and a pitch contour,
- speech synthesis means comprising means for:
 - selecting of windowed diphone samples based on the information, the diphone samples being windowed by a window function being centered with respect to a phase angle which is determined as a phase difference

between a maximum of said speech signal and a first harmonic of the speech signal;
and

- means for concatenating the selected windowed diphone samples.

19. (original) The text-to-speech system of claim 18, whereby the window function is a raised cosine or a triangular window.

20. (Previously presented) A speech processing system comprising:

- means for inputting of a signal comprising natural speech signal,
- means for windowing the natural speech signal by means of a window function being centered with respect to a phase angle determined as a phase difference between a maximum of said speech signal and a first harmonic of the speech signal to provide windowed diphone samples,
- means for processing of the windowed diphone samples, and
means for concatenating the selected windowed diphone samples.